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## Abstract of the Disclosure:

In a network management system, a data portion of an SNMP packet transmitted/received between an SNMP manager 10 (network management device) and an SNMP agent 20 (management object device) is compressed by a predetermined compression algorithm compression/decompression processing section 13, 22, when the SNMP packet is transmitted. The compressed SNMP packet is decompressed to be reproduced as the SNMP packet by the predetermined compression algorithm in the compression/decompression processing section 13, 22, when the compressed SNMP packet is Further, a compression indicating bit [1] is set on a predetermined bit position in the compressed SNMP packet in order to distinguish the SNMP packet from another SNMP packet transmitted/received between the SNMP manager 10 and an SNMP agent 120 (conventional management object device).